



Addressing the threat of climate change: Is New Zealand lagging behind?

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Abstract:

A recently released Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report highlights the likely serious future changes for the global climate. The Stern Review describes the very large adverse economic impacts that climate change is likely to produce, and how a relatively small investment may lower this risk. From a health perspective, the World Health Organization has identified that climate change is already causing the annual loss of over 150,000 lives and 5,500,000 disability-adjusted life-years globally. Some of New Zealand's South Pacific neighbours may particularly suffer from the health and environmental impacts of climate change. Potential adverse health impacts for New Zealand have also been described, including an increased risk of dengue fever. Given these concerns, it is desirable to examine New Zealand's role as a good global citizen in addressing climate change prevention. We undertook a brief review of this country's progress in using economic instruments for climate protection, given the importance of such instruments in various forms of pollution control.

Source: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17384703>

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Unspecified Exposure

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Health Outcome Unspecified

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Mitigation

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified